



## CANYONS SCHOOL DISTRICT MINUTES OF BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

The following minutes are a summary of the February 18, 2025, Canyons Board of Education meeting. To listen to the entire board meeting, including all comments made during the meeting, please go to BoardDocs at <http://www.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf>

The Board of Education of Canyons School District met in a board meeting on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, beginning at 4:30 pm at the Canyons Administration Building, 9361 S. 300 East, Sandy, Utah 84070.

**Those in attendance were:**

Amber Shill, Board President  
Amanda Oaks, Vice President  
Andrew Edtl, Vice President  
Katie Dahle, Board Member  
Jackson Lewis, Board Member  
Holly Neibaur, Board Member  
Karen Pedersen, Board Member  
Rick Robins, Superintendent  
Leon Wilcox, Business Administrator  
Dan Harper, General Legal Counsel  
Charlie Evans, Director of External Relations

**1. Closed Session – 4:30 pm**

- A. For the purpose of discussing the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual
- B. For the purpose of discussing collective bargaining

**MOTION:** Karen Pedersen moved to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual and for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining. Katie Dahle seconded the motion. \*A vote was taken. 5 Yea (Ms. Pedersen, Mr. Jackson, Ms. Shill, Mr. Edtl, Ms. Dahle) 2 Not present (Ms. Neibaur and Ms. Oaks joined the meeting electronically and later in person after the roll call vote) The motion carries.

\*Person in Attendance: All Board Members. Rick Robins – Superintendent, Leon Wilcox – Business Administrator, Dan Harper – General Counsel, Charlie Evans – Director of External Relations, McKay Robinson – Assistant Superintendent  
<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DDSUY87E4A85>

Note:. A 2<sup>nd</sup> Closed Session Motion is located after the Study Session.

**2. Study Session – 5:15 pm**

- A. 2025 Legislative Update – Charlie Evans, Director of External Relations and Susan Edwards, Public engagement Coordinator

Mr. Evans and Ms. Edwards updated the Board of Education on bills that are related to education for the 2025 Legislative Session.

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DDSUYA7E4A88>

- B. 2025-26 School Fee Schedule (First Reading) – Leon Wilcox, Business Administrator

HB415 passed in 2024, requiring that in FY26 registration fees for middle and high school may no longer be charged. CSD usually collects approximately \$950,000 per year in registration fees. Under HB415, CSD will likely be distributed about \$850,000, \$500,000 and \$350,000 over the three-year period. It has been established that fundraising is not considered a school fee.

HB344 passed the House on February 7, 2025, with significant support. It would require each LEA to have a path to graduation where a student can graduate without needing to pay fees starting in the 2026-2027 school year. HB344 defines fee and non-fee courses and eliminates confusing definitions of curricular and co-curricular fees. The bill will disallow LEAs from charging fees in non-fee, CORE courses.

The recommended high school fee schedule is to increase the cap from \$5,000 to \$6,000 and middle school aggregate will remain the same at \$500. Mr. Wilcox reviewed additional proposed school fee changes and potential future increases for 2026-2027. The proposed 2025-26 fee schedules will be sent to parents via Parent Square. The next reading will be on March 4<sup>th</sup>, with possible approval at the March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. Presentation available on BoardDocs.

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DDSUZU7E6C38>

- C. Policy Update: Policy-100.01-Board Governance; Policy-200.02- Fiscal Accountability; Policy-300.01-School Access; Policy-300.09- Facilities Construction, Renovation, and Maintenance; Policy-400.28-Military Leave or Military Stipend (First Reading) – Jeff Christensen, Assistant Legal Counsel

#### Policy-100.01-Board Governance

The policy committee is recommending minor edits to clarify a board member may request an item to be placed on the agenda by notifying Board Leadership by email. In addition, clarification was added regarding protocol in the absence of the President.

#### Policy-200.02- Fiscal Accountability

This policy is updated to include time and effort provisions as required by federal law. The purpose of time and effort provisions is to demonstrate that salaries and benefits charged to programs accurately reflect effort performed, and it is a requirement and condition for receipt of federal funds. Additionally, it was proposed the dollar amount for Board approval for purchasing bids be increased from \$80,000 to \$120,000.

#### Policy-300.01-School Access

The policy requires an update to align policy with practice regarding distribution of exterior master keys, and security panel alarm codes under the direction of the principal.

#### Policy-300.09- Facilities Construction, Renovation, and Maintenance

This policy requires a minor update to edit the Committee Membership of the Small Capital Facilities committee membership to align it with current practice.

**Policy-400.28-Military Leave or Military Stipend**

The Policy Committee recommends making adjustments to increase military leave from 15 to 20 days, and military stipends to similarly increase in proportion.

Presentation and documents available on BoardDocs.

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DDSUZX7E7563>

Closed Session reconvened for the purpose of further discussion of collective bargaining.

**MOTION: Andrew Edtl moved to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining. Jackson Lewis seconded the motion. \*A vote was taken. 5 Yea (Ms. Pedersen, Mr. Jackson, Ms. Shill, Mr. Edtl, Ms. Dahle) 2 Not present (Ms. Shill) (Ms. Neibaur joined in person after the roll call vote) The motion carries.**

\*Person in Attendance: All Board Members. Rick Robins – Superintendent, Leon Wilcox – Business Administrator, Dan Harper – General Counsel, McKay Robinson – Assistant Superintendent

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DDSUZT7E59FC>

**3. Business Meeting – 7:00 pm**

**4. Opening Items**

- A. Welcome
- B. Approve Agenda for February 18, 2025

**MOTION: Holly Neibaur moved to approve the agenda for February 18, 2025, to include reading the Canyons Board of Education statement prior to Patron Comments. Katie Dahle seconded the motion. 6 Yea (Ms. Pedersen, Ms. Dahle, Ms. Oaks, Mr. Edtl, Mr. Lewis and Ms. Neibaur) 1 Not Present (Ms. Shill) The motion carries.**

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DDSUYG7E4A8F>

- C. Pledge of Allegiance – Eastmont Middle, Principal Stacy Kurtzhals

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DDSUYG7E4A8F>

- D. School Highlights – Eastmont Middle, Principal Stacy Kurtzhals

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DDSUYN7E4A95>

**5. Canyons Strong Recognitions – Jeff Haney, Director, and Kirsten Stewart, Associate Director of Communications**

The following staff and students were recognized:

- Corner Canyon hosted a regional Unified Special Olympics basketball tournament last Monday. Utah's First Lady Abby Cox attended the event
- Kaydon Williams (285lb) and Laimana Fager (215lb), representing Corner Canyon High School, won their third consecutive titles in their 6A weight classifications for UHSAA boys wrestling
- Moroni Mahe, Hillcrest High School, the 5A State Boys Wrestling title for the 215lb weight classification.

- Girls wrestling Overall Hillcrest and Corner Canyon took third place in 5A and 6A competitions.
- Piper Eller, Corner Canyon, won the 100lb weight classification
- Olivia Byinton, Corner Canyon, won 130lb weight classification
- Meleana Fager, Corner Canyon, won 140lb weight classification
- Clarion Fager, Corner Canyon, won 170lb weight classification
- Katie Zimmerman, Hillcrest, won 100lb weight classification
- Eva Zimmerman, Hillcrest, won 110lb weight classification
- Eliza Zimmerman, Hillcrest, won 120lb weight classification
- Eleni Nonu, Hillcrest, won 170lb weight classification
- Abbey West, Jordan High, won 105lb weight classification for the 4A Girls State Wrestling
- Lew-ONN Barnard, Brighton High, captured the gold in both the 200 freestyle and 100 backstroke, 5A Boys swimming championships
- Brighton Boys Swim team 4<sup>th</sup> overall in 5A Championships
- Dylan Etherington, 5A Boys Swimming, 2<sup>nd</sup> place 50 freestyle and 2<sup>nd</sup> place 100 freestyle
- Brightons Girls Swim team 5<sup>th</sup> overall in 5A Championships
- Alta Boys Swim team 5<sup>th</sup> overall in 5A Championships
- Skyla Strehie, Alta, 1<sup>st</sup> place 50 freestyle in Unified races
- Corner Canyon Boys Swim Team 6<sup>th</sup> overall, 6A Championships
- Jordan Barlow, Corner Canyon, won 1<sup>st</sup> place 50 freestyle
- Alta High Cheer, won the Varsity Show Intermediate super category at the USA Spirit Nationals in California
- Andy Markus, top 5 finalist for the National ESP of the Year award
- Gretchen Zaitzeff, Library Specialist, recognized with Operation Literacy's "Book Hero Award"
- National School Resource Office Appreciation Day. Canyons appreciates all the SRO's in the District that serve, protect and provide safe, welcoming and prepared schools

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DDSUYS7E4A99>

Board of Education statement regarding HB267:

*Last Friday, Utah Governor Spencer Cox signed HB267, titled "Public Sector Union Amendments," which eliminates collective bargaining for public employees. We recognize this bill may have created uncertainty for civil and public servants, including our teachers, education support professionals, and administrators. We want this much to be clear: As stated in CSD's Strategic Plan, the Canyons Board of Education and Administration remain committed to providing "the necessary support for all employees to be successful in their roles." Please know the new legislation does not diminish our commitment to and support of our employees. We truly appreciate and value the great work our employees do daily to build up the next generation. Throughout the years, Canyons employees have proven their dedication to providing our students a world-class education in clean, welcoming, and prepared learning environments. Together, we can continue to foster a culture of trust and collaboration as we work together in this noble endeavor of ensuring that every child in our community is college- and career-ready when they graduate from high school.*

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DE3UU87DB667>

## 6. Patron Comments

The following patrons commented:

- Krista Pippin, President of CEA – Board Appreciations
- Katie Nelson – Eastmont
- Erika Bradshaw – Board Appreciation
- Brooke Eastham – Teacher FTE
- Tiffany Smith – Teacher FTE
- Andy Marcus – Board Appreciation
- Jennifer Basford – Teacher FTE
- Alli Boothe – Teacher FTE

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DDSUYU7E4A9B>

## 7. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Minutes for February 4, 2025
- B. Approval of Hire and Termination Reports
- C. Approval of Student Overnight Travel
- D. Approval of January Financial Reports
- E. Approval of Administrative Appointments
- F. Approval of Canyons Innovation Center Director

**MOTION:** Andrew Edtl moved to approve Consent Agenda Item 7A Approval of Minutes from February 4, 2025; Item 7B Approval of Hire and Termination Reports; Item 7C Approval of Student Overnight Travel; Item 7D Approval of January Financial Reports; Item 7E Approval of Administrative Appointments with the exception of Item 7F Approval of Canyons Innovation Center Director. Katie Dahle seconded the motion. 6 Yea (Ms. Neibaur, Ms. Pedersen, Mr. Lewis, Ms. Oaks, Mr. Edtl, Ms. Dahle) 1 Not present (Ms. Shill). The motion carries.

Consent Agenda Item 7F Approval of Canyons Innovation Center Director was pulled from the Consent Agenda motion for discussion.

**MOTION:** Katie Dahle moved to approve Item 7F Approval of Canyons Innovation Center Director. Karen Pedersen seconded the motion. 5 Yea (Ms. Neibaur, Ms. Pedersen, Mr. Lewis, Ms. Oaks, Ms. Dahle) 1 Nay (Mr. Edtl) 1 Not present (Ms. Shill). The motion carries.

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DDSUYW7E4A9D>

## 8. New Business

- A. First Credential presentation – Dr. Rich Nye (Governor Education Advisor)

Dr. Rich Nye, the Governor's Senior Education Advisor, presented information on HB260 Utah First Credential implementation. The shared goal is to ensure every Utah high school student graduates with a credential that prepares them for college and the workforce, by uniting State K-12 and higher education agencies in a comprehensive, collaborative effort. The bill provisions were reviewed, such as develop Utah's First Credential Master Plan, establish and maintain the master credential list. Presentation available on BoardDocs.

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DDSUZB7E4AAA>

- B. SHARP Survey Update – Dr. Brian McGill, Director of Student Wellness Services

The Student Health and Risk Prevention (SHARP) mission is to ensure each student is safe, healthy and ready to learn. CSD's Holistic School Safety Framework and Standard Response Protocol is comprised of intervening early, averting violence, supporting student wellness, preventing bullying, ensuring online safety and improving school climate. Schools are providing nearly all aspects of Maslow's hierarchy of needs but the key for every student is what intrinsically motivates them. The goal is to help students learn how to be an optimal learner.

Participating in the SHARP's survey has helped create a collaborative partnership for CSD with the State of Utah, Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, local cities/municipalities and Bach Harrison, LLC. The SHARP's survey provides the District with an assessment of needs through data collected from the survey every other year from students in 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades.

The participation in the survey allows the District to apply for grants that require it, resulting in \$8-10 million, which is a major funding source for personnel. Presentation available on BoardDocs. <https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DDSVEB805DB0>

- C. Consideration for adoption of a resolution for the Board of Education of Canyons School District, Utah, authorizing the issuance and sale of not more than \$25,500,000 principal amount of its Refunding Bonds 2025A and related matters (First Reading) – Leon Wilcox, Business Administrator

The refunding transaction proposed will reduce the repayment time frame from 8 to 6 years on bonds issued in 2015. This refunding is projected to save approximately \$850,000 net present value, if approved. Refunding will allow more greater financial flexibility beginning in 2032, however will lessen the flexibility in years 2030 and 2031. As part of the federal government's debt reduction plan, they may eliminate tax-exempt state and municipal bonds and make all bonds taxable resulting in a negative impact on school districts issuing bonds in the future. Presentation and documents available on BoardDocs.

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DDSVEJ80644A>

**9. Staff Comments**

- A. Superintendent Report

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DDSUZF7E4AAE>

- B. Business Administrator Report

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DDSUZJ7E4AB1>

**10. Board Comments**

- A. The President will recognize individual Board members for reports

<https://go.boarddocs.com/ut/canyons/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=DDSUZN7E4AB5>

**11. Closing Items**

- A. Adjourn

/cc

ATTEST \_\_\_\_\_ Board President  
Amber Shill

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Rick Robins Superintendent